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In re Rule 53(b) Divisional of:

U.S. Patent Appl. S.N. 09/023,430 (01/13/98))

Applicant: Christoph HECKENKAMP *et al.*)

Group Art Unit 2872

Filed: Concurrently Herewith)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT BEFORE EXAMINATION

Sir:

Before examination of the continuation application filed concurrently herewith under 37 CFR 1.53(b), kindly amend the application in accordance with the following particulars:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the following paragraphs, as indicated by the clean copies of the amended paragraphs in Appendix A, and the marked-up copies of the amended paragraphs in Appendix B, attached hereto:

- Page 1, lines 4-8
- Page 8, lines 10-24
- Page 29, line 20 to Page 30, line 4

Please make the following additional changes to the specification:

- Page 1, between lines 8 and 9, insert the heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention [